

~~331~~ ~~398~~. (Amended) A computer implemented method for distributing software from a remote computer system to a user station, the method comprising:

B2 receiving at the remote computer system over a communications network a selection of software for distribution to the user station, wherein the selection of software is selected at the user station [as a function] from a directory of software available for installation on the user station and [software] not already installed on the user station; and distributing to the user station over the communications network software indicated by the selection.

REMARKS

Claims 68-443 are presently pending in the instant application, of which claims 383 and 398 are amended herein. A copy of these claims without markings is provided in the attached Appendix.

The Office Action mailed May 8, 2002 rejects claims 68-443 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Chernow (U.S. Patent Number 4,999,806) and Halliwell (U.S. Patent Number 5,564,051).

Applicant would like to his gratitude to Examiner Peyton, and SPEs Lee and Gaffin, for the courtesies extended by them to Applicant's representatives, Robert Westerlund and Bruce Bernstein, during the Personal Examiner Interview that was conducted on June 10, 2002. During this Examiner Interview, agreement was reached that "Halliwell teaches away from user selection that would allow the to select from a directory of software available for download that is not already installed on the user system", and further, that "Chernow does not teach of presenting a directory of software as claimed." (See Interview Summary dated 6/10/02). Agreement was also reached that "the Halliwell-Chernow combination failed to teach the claims between 68-382" and further, that the remaining claims would be patentable over the Halliwell-Chernow combination if independent claims 383 and 398 are amended "to recite that the software selected has a function of a directory of software." (See Interview Summary dated 6/10/02).